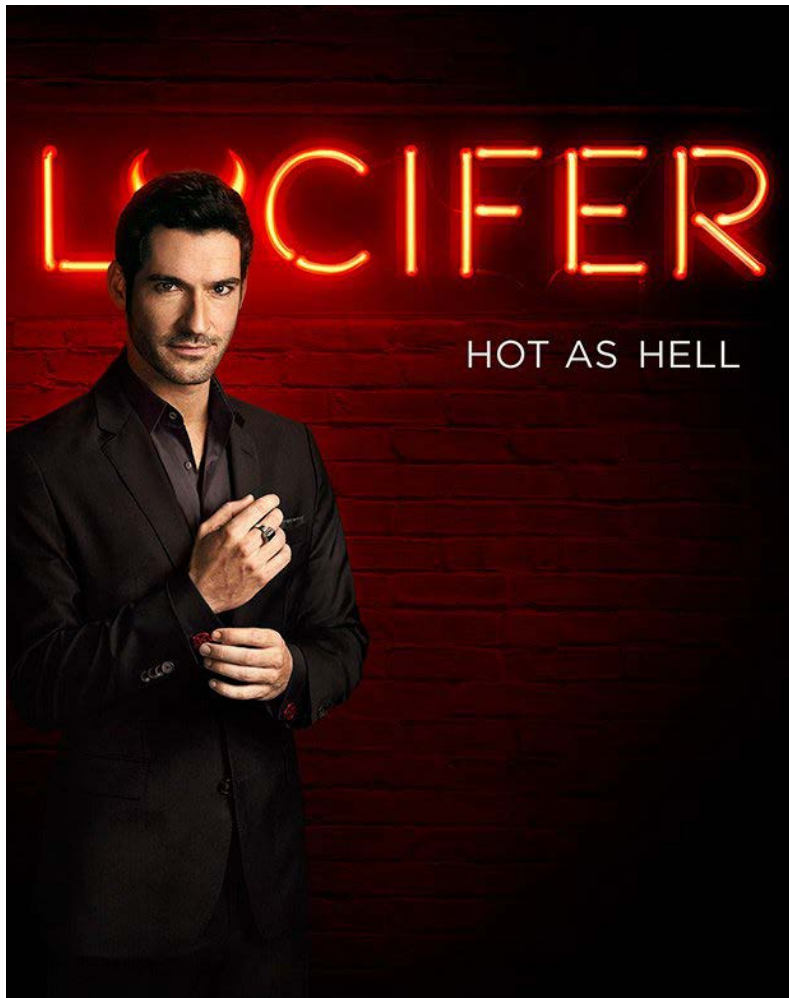


## Lucifer



I have always contended that at the end of the day, the Devil is just an angel with a broken heart. In the Fox television series, *Lucifer* my contention is cleverly confirmed in the acting and singing talents of Tom Ellis, who is devilishly handsome and comically charming as the embodiment of Lucifer Morningstar, the fallen favorite from Heaven. The premise is a mythical riff on what would happen if the Lord of Hell took a vacation and decided to live on earth amongst the living. I have often wondered that myself.

What follows is a wry and amusing study of what drives the prince of darkness and what happens if he decides to

do good instead? The psychology of the character is deeply embedded in the father-son relationship. As the favorite child, just what can be demanded or expected from you? If you give up your given role, how does that impact the rest of the family system? If you refuse to be a scapegoat and stand up against the forced choices given to you—then what? Watch and find out.

*Lucifer* is at his immortal best when seated across from his therapist (I have always thought that no one more than he needed it). The relationship he builds with her and how that begins to change his approach to his life and to his other relationships is a true treat and delight to watch. If you like family dynamics and enjoy quirky off-beat situations, this show is for you.



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So, what provokes this change in him? Being close to someone who is not afraid, who accepts him as he is, who has empathy when he is in pain and who becomes a friend. This heavenly gift comes to him all in the attractive female police detective who is more than a little intrigued, but trying to do the right thing while working on her marriage. I like the way the characters relate to each other and how each one has an impact on Lucifer's heart. When he begins to feel the feelings long repressed, he also begins to lose his power and that vulnerability is really what makes this so much fun to watch.

*Lucifer* is about redemption, and shows how love can indeed conquer hate, anger and resentment. The ultimate anti-hero makes some very valid points about free will, personal accountability and what happens when you are left to your own devices without the proper familial guidance to support you.

If even the Devil can be reformed, then there is hope for every one of us. Check it out. Monday nights.

